



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
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YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

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Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

February 4, 2008

To: Yvonne B. Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

STATUS REPORT – LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES, STRONGER FAMILIES, AND THRIVING CHILDREN INITIATIVE AND PREVENTION INITIATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT (ITEM #41 FOR THE SUPERVISORS' AGENDA FEBRUARY 6, 2008)

On March 14, 2006, your Board approved a motion by Supervisors Knabe and Yaroslavsky, instructing the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to develop an implementation plan identifying the timeframe and requirements needed to fund, organize, test, implement, contract for, and administer a community specific child abuse/neglect prevention initiative in Los Angeles County to address the root causes of child abuse/neglect, such as poverty, lack of job training, mental illness, substance abuse, lack of child care, parenting responsibilities, and the importance of early child development.

Over the past two years, on behalf of the New Directions Task Force, the County's Interagency Operations Group, developed *Healthier communities, Stronger families, and Thriving children (HST)*, an integrated approach for improving the safety of children and reducing the root causes of child maltreatment through service integration and community capacity building. An integral component of HST, the *Prevention Initiative Demonstration Project (PIDP)* consists of a 12-month, DCFS-led effort that uses \$5 million in net County cost (NCC) fund balance from Fiscal Year (FY) 2005-06 to implement a series of County child abuse/neglect prevention services/strategies through a network of existing DCFS contract agencies and their partners. The agencies were selected based on a Request for Information process conducted by DCFS in May 2007.

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On January 29, 2008, the CEO was directed by your Board to report back as to the most expeditious way to implement HST. It is our recommendation, informed by input received from your Children's Deputies, that the integrated HST initiative be bifurcated, and that the PIDP contracts be presented to your Board for consideration within 30 days. The remaining HST component will be further developed and comprised of a series of service integration and community building strategies that will serve to support and extend the reach of County prevention efforts.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me, or your staff may contact Miguel Santana at (213) 974-4530 or msantana@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:MS:KH
CP:hn

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
New Directions Task Force Members
Interagency Operations Group Members
Children's Planning Council
Department of Children and Family Services